CLAIMS

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, tangibly stored on one or more computer-readable storage devices, the computer program product comprising instructions operable to cause one or more processors to perform operations, the operations comprising:

receiving first valuation information describing results of a first evaluation of [[the]]an appropriateness of distributing a first portion of a data assembly to a first component in a data management system;

modifying the data assembly for distribution based on the first valuation information;

making the modified data assembly available for distribution to the first component;

receiving second valuation information describing results of a second evaluation of [[the]] appropriateness of distributing a second portion of the data assembly to a second component in the data management system;

modifying the data assembly for distribution based on the second valuation information;

making the modified data assembly available for distribution to the second component;

distributing the modified data assembly to the first component; and

distributing the modified data assembly to the second component.

8. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise:

receiving an indication of invalidity of the first portion of the data assembly; and

modifying the data assembly by eliminating the invalid first portion of the data assembly for distribution.

9. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise receiving an indication of a change to the first portion of the data assembly, the change relating to an update to a version of a device described by the data assembly.

10. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 9, wherein modifying the data assembly comprises eliminating, for distribution, the first portion of the data assembly that describes a previous version of the device described by the data assembly.

11. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 9, wherein the operations further comprise automatically identifying the data assembly for distribution upon receipt of the indication of the change to the first portion of the data assembly.

12. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 7, wherein modifying the data assembly comprises reducing complexity of the data assembly.

13. (Original) The product of claim 12, wherein reducing complexity of the data assembly comprises eliminating an object from the data assembly.

14. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 7, wherein modifying the data assembly comprises eliminating plural references to a single data object.

15. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise receiving the first valuation information as metadata included in the data assembly.

16. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 7, wherein the first valuation information is based at least in part on a context of the first target component of a data management system.

17. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 16, wherein the first valuation information is based at least in part on an application performed at the first target component.

18. (Previously Presented) A computer program product, tangibly stored on one or more computer-readable media storage devices, the computer program product comprising instructions operable to cause one or more processors to perform operations, the operations comprising:

receiving historical distribution information for a data assembly, the historical

distribution information identifying one or more components of a data management system that have previously received some version of the data assembly;

determining if distribution of at least a portion of a current version of the data assembly to a target component of the data management system is warranted based on the historical distribution information;

making at least the portion of the current version of the data assembly available for distribution to the target component in response to determining that distribution is warranted; and

distributing the portion of the current version of the data assembly to the target component.

19. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 18, wherein:

the historical distribution information identifies a distributed version of the data assembly, the distributed version being previously distributed to the target component; and

determining if distribution is warranted comprises determining if a current version of the data assembly includes changed data for which distribution to the target component is warranted.

20. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 18, wherein determining if distribution is warranted comprises:

determining if the current version of the data assembly includes data associated with an updated lifecycle characteristic; and

determining if the updated lifecycle characteristic makes distribution of the associated data to the target component warranted.

21. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 18, wherein determining if distribution is warranted comprises determining if the current version of the data assembly includes data applicable to a role of the target component.

22. (Original) The product of claim 18, wherein the operations further comprise modifying the current version of the data assembly for distribution to the target component.

23. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 18, wherein the operations further comprise:

identifying a second data assembly related to the data assembly; and

determining if distribution of the second data assembly is warranted based on a relationship of the second data assembly to the data assembly.

24. (Previously Presented) A computer program product, tangibly stored on one or more computer-readable storage devices, the computer program product comprising instructions operable to cause one or more processors to perform operations, the operations comprising:

receiving a data assembly identified for distribution to one or more target components in a data management system;

extracting a characteristic of content of the data assembly;

determining if distribution of at least a portion of the data assembly to a first target component of the data management system is warranted based on a comparison of the characteristic of the content with a characteristic of the first target component;

making at least the portion of the data assembly available for distribution to the first target component in response to determining that distribution to the first target is warranted;

determining if distribution of at least the portion of the data assembly to a second target component of the data management system is warranted based on a comparison of the characteristic of the content with a characteristic of the second target component;

making at least the portion of the data assembly available for distribution to the second target component in response to determining that distribution to the second target component is warranted;

distributing at least the portion of the data assembly to the first target component; and

distributing at least the portion of the data assembly to the second target component.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 24, wherein extracting the characteristic of the content comprises searching the content of the data assembly for a keyword relevant to the first target component.

27. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 24, wherein extracting the characteristic of the content comprises parsing language in the content of the data assembly for language relevant to the first target component.

28. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 24, wherein determining if distribution is warranted comprises comparing the characteristic of the content with a technical characteristic of the first target component.

29. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 24, wherein determining if distribution is warranted comprises comparing the characteristic of the content with a role of the first target component.

30. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 24, wherein the operations further comprise modifying current version of the data assembly for distribution to the first target component.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 7, wherein the data assembly comprises master data and distribution of the data assembly is part of master data management in the data management system.

33. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 18, wherein the data assembly comprises master data and distribution of the data assembly is part of master data management in the data management system.

34. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 24, wherein the data assembly comprises master data and distribution of the data assembly is part of master data management in the data management system.

35. (Canceled)

36. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise distributing, to the first component, the data assembly modified based on the first valuation information.

37. (Previously Presented) The product of claim 18, wherein the operations further comprise distributing at least the portion of the current version of the data assembly available to the target component.

38. (Canceled)

39. (New) A method implemented using a data-processing device, the method comprising:

receiving first valuation information describing results of a first evaluation of an appropriateness of distributing a first portion of a data assembly to a first component in a data management system;

modifying the data assembly for distribution based on the first valuation information;

making the modified data assembly available for distribution to the first component;

receiving second valuation information describing results of a second evaluation of an appropriateness of distributing a second portion of the data assembly to a second component in the data management system;

modifying the data assembly for distribution based on the second valuation information;

making the modified data assembly available for distribution to the second component;

distributing the modified data assembly to the first component; and

distributing the modified data assembly to the second component.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, further comprising:

receiving an indication of invalidity of the first portion of the data assembly; and

modifying the data assembly by eliminating the invalid first portion of the data assembly for distribution.

41. (New) The method of claim 39, further comprising receiving an indication of a change to the first portion of the data assembly, the change relating to an update to a version of a device described by the data assembly.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein modifying the data assembly comprises eliminating, for distribution, the first portion of the data assembly that describes a previous version of the device described by the data assembly.

43. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising automatically identifying the data assembly for distribution upon receipt of the indication of the change to the first portion of the data assembly.

44. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein modifying the data assembly comprises reducing complexity of the data assembly.

45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein reducing complexity of the data assembly comprises eliminating an object from the data assembly.

46. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein modifying the data assembly comprises eliminating plural references to a single data object.

47. (New) The method of claim 39, further comprising receiving the first valuation information as metadata included in the data assembly.

48. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the first valuation information is based at least in part on a context of the first target component of a data management system.

49. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein the first valuation information is based at least in part on an application performed at the first target component.

50. (New) A method implemented using a data-processing device, the method comprising:

receiving historical distribution information for a data assembly, the historical distribution information identifying one or more components of a data management system that have previously received some version of the data assembly;

determining if distribution of at least a portion of a current version of the data assembly to a target component of the data management system is warranted based on the historical distribution information;

making at least the portion of the current version of the data assembly available for distribution to the target component in response to determining that distribution is warranted; and

distributing the portion of the current version of the data assembly to the target component.

51. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein:

the historical distribution information identifies a distributed version of the data assembly, the distributed version being previously distributed to the target component; and

determining if distribution is warranted comprises determining if a current version of the data assembly includes changed data for which distribution to the target component is warranted.

52. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein determining if distribution is warranted comprises:

determining if the current version of the data assembly includes data associated with an updated lifecycle characteristic; and

determining if the updated lifecycle characteristic makes distribution of the associated data to the target component warranted.

53. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein determining if distribution is warranted comprises determining if the current version of the data assembly includes data applicable to a role of the target component.

54. (New) The method of claim 50, further comprising modifying the current version of the data assembly for distribution to the target component.

55. (New) The method of claim 50, further comprising:

identifying a second data assembly related to the data assembly; and

determining if distribution of the second data assembly is warranted based on a relationship of the second data assembly to the data assembly.

56. (New) A method implemented using a data-processing device, the method comprising:

receiving a data assembly identified for distribution to one or more target components in a data management system;

extracting a characteristic of content of the data assembly;

determining if distribution of at least a portion of the data assembly to a first target component of the data management system is warranted based on a comparison of the characteristic of the content with a characteristic of the first target component;

making at least the portion of the data assembly available for distribution to the first target component in response to determining that distribution to the first target is warranted;

determining if distribution of at least the portion of the data assembly to a second target component of the data management system is warranted based on a comparison of the characteristic of the content with a characteristic of the second target component;

making at least the portion of the data assembly available for distribution to the second target component in response to determining that distribution to the second target component is warranted;

distributing at least the portion of the data assembly to the first target component; and

distributing at least the portion of the data assembly to the second target component.

57. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein extracting the characteristic of the content comprises searching the content of the data assembly for a keyword relevant to the first target component.

58. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein extracting the characteristic of the content comprises parsing language in the content of the data assembly for language relevant to the first target component.

59. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein determining if distribution is warranted comprises comparing the characteristic of the content with a technical characteristic of the first target component.

60. (New) The method of claim 56, wherein determining if distribution is warranted comprises comparing the characteristic of the content with a role of the first target component.

61. (New) The method of claim 56, further comprising modifying current version of the data assembly for distribution to the first target component.